

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-37 (canceled).

NE  
(not entered)  
1/14/04  
mc

38 (currently amended). A method of synthesis using a porous device comprising a body having an internal region which is porous, wherein a multiplicity of particles of an active material are entrapped within the internal region and held in position by a physical weld, ~~the method of synthesis comprising wherein said active~~ material comprises a resin and the method of synthesis comprises the step of contacting said porous device with a first reagent under conditions which cause said first reagent to react with said active material, so that a bond is formed between the active material and said first reagent or a fragment thereof.

39 (canceled).

40 (previously presented). A method according to claim 38, which involves contacting said porous device with reagents in order to prepare a compound which is covalently bonded to the active material of the porous device.

41 (previously presented). A method according to claim 38, wherein said active material is arranged to act as a support for a compound prepared in solid phase synthesis.